

Applicant: Yu-Lien Huang, et al.

Serial No.: 10/656,586

Attorney Docket No.: 67,200-1133

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**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claim 1 as follows.

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**Listing of Claims**

1. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a process chamber having a substantially vertical  
chamber wall defining a chamber interior;

a showerhead provided in said process chamber and  
having a lateral surface engaging said chamber wall; and

a plurality of exterior fasteners extending laterally  
through said chamber wall and into said showerhead, with said  
plurality of exterior fasteners structurally isolated from said  
chamber interior.

2. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each of said  
plurality of exterior fasteners comprises a fastener head and a  
threaded shank extending from said fastener head, and wherein  
said fastener head engages an exterior surface of said chamber  
wall.

3. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a  
gas mix plate carried by said chamber wall above said  
showerhead.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein each of said  
plurality of exterior fasteners comprises a fastener head and a

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threaded shank extending from said fastener head, and wherein said fastener head engages an exterior surface of said chamber wall.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a confinement ring provided in said process chamber beneath said showerhead.

6. (original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein each of said plurality of exterior fasteners comprises a fastener head and a threaded shank extending from said fastener head, and wherein said fastener head engages an exterior surface of said chamber wall.

7. (original) The apparatus of claim 5 further comprising a gas mix plate carried by said chamber wall above said showerhead.

8. (original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein each of said plurality of exterior fasteners comprises a fastener head and a threaded shank extending from said fastener head, and wherein said fastener head engages an exterior surface of said chamber wall.

9. (withdrawn) An apparatus comprising:

a process chamber having a chamber wall;

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a showerhead provided in said process chamber;

a confine ring provided in said process chamber  
beneath said showerhead; and

a plurality of embedded fasteners extending through  
said confine ring and said showerhead and into said process  
chamber, with each of said plurality of embedded fasteners  
substantially embedded in said confine ring.

10. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein each of  
said plurality of embedded fasteners comprises a fastener head  
and a threaded shank extending from said fastener head, and  
wherein said fastener head is substantially flush with said  
bottom surface of said confine ring.

11. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said  
process chamber comprises a gas mix plate carried by said  
chamber wall above said showerhead and wherein said plurality of  
embedded fasteners is threaded into said gas mix plate.

12. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein each of  
said plurality of embedded fasteners comprises a fastener head  
and a threaded shank extending from said fastener head, and  
wherein said fastener head is substantially flush with said  
bottom surface of said confine ring.

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13. (withdrawn) A method of mounting a showerhead in a process chamber having a chamber wall defining a chamber interior, comprising the steps of:

extending a plurality of fasteners into engagement with the showerhead and the process chamber; and

structurally isolating said plurality of fasteners from the chamber interior.

14. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein said extending a plurality of fasteners into engagement with the showerhead and the process chamber comprises the step of extending a plurality of exterior fasteners inwardly through the chamber wall and into the showerhead.

15. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein each of said plurality of fasteners comprises a fastener head and a threaded shank extending from said fastener head.

16. (withdrawn) The method of claim 15 wherein said extending a plurality of fasteners into engagement with the showerhead and the process chamber comprises the step of extending a plurality of exterior fasteners inwardly through the chamber wall and into the showerhead.

17. (withdrawn) The method of claim 13 wherein said

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extending a plurality of fasteners into engagement with the showerhead and the process chamber comprises the step of extending a plurality of embedded fasteners through the showerhead and threading said plurality of embedded fasteners into the process chamber.

18. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein each of said plurality of fasteners comprises a fastener head and a threaded shank extending from said fastener head.

19. (withdrawn) The method of claim 14 wherein said structurally isolating said plurality of fasteners from the chamber interior comprises the step of abutting the showerhead against the chamber wall.

20. (withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein said structurally isolating said plurality of fasteners from the chamber interior comprises the step of embedding said plurality of embedded fasteners in a confine ring disposed in the chamber interior beneath the showerhead.